

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 DODE-00 COME-00

NSF-01 NAS-01 L-03 DOE-11 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 PM-05

INR-07 NSAE-00 SOE-02 /082 W

-----129564 121635Z /53

P 121530Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6589

NASA HQ WASHDC PRIORITY

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DEPT PASS NASA TERRELL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA, UR, US

SUBJECT: EXTENSION OF THE NASA-ACADEMY AGREEMENT

REFS: A. STATE 003393 B. 77 MOSCOW 16864

1. ON JANUARY 11 SCICOUNS PASSED LOVELACE-PETROV LETTER (REF A) TO VERESHCHETIN OF INTERKOSMOS, WHO NOTED THAT PETROV IS CURRENTLY ON VACATION IN KISLOVODSK AND WILL NOT RETURN TO WORK UNTIL THE BEGINNING OF FEBRUARY. VERESHCHETIN SAID THAT THE SOVIET REPLY WILL THEREFORE NOT BE READY UNTIL MID-FEBRUARY, AT THE EARLIEST. VERESHCHETIN EXPRESSED SOME INITIAL SURPRISE AT THE LOVELACE LETTER, COMMENTING THAT THE SOVIETS HAD UNDERSTOOD THAT THE NASA-ACADEMY AGREEMENT HAD BEEN RENEWED IN APRIL, 1977. (NOTE: A CAREFUL READING OF THE LOVELACE LETTER OF FEBRUARY 8, 1977, AND OF THE ALEKSANDROV LETTER OF APRIL 22, 1977, REVEALS THAT THIS EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE COULD NOT BE INTERPRETED AS CONSTITUTIONING AN EXTENSION OF THE NASA-ACADEMY AGREEMENT.

WE WILL SO INFORM VERESHCHETIN DURING OUR NEXT MEETING, AND IN ANY EVENT, VERESHCHETIN DID NOT PRESS POINT DURING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FURTHER DISCUSSIONS.)

2. EMPHASIZING THROUGHOUT THE DISCUSSION THAT HE WAS SPEAKING INFORMALLY, VERESHCHETIN ASKED WHETHER THE U.S. WOULD HAVE NEW LUNAR SAMPLES TO EXCHANGE OR WHETHER THE U.S. SAMPLES WOULD BE FROM PREVIOUS U.S. MISSIONS, NOTING SNIDELY THAT HE WAS NOT AWARE OF

ANY PLANS FOR FURTHER U.S. LUNAR SURFACE MISSIONS.
(IN AN ASIDE, VERESHCHETIN ASKED INTERKOSMOS DEPUTY
DIRECTOR NOVIKOV WHETHER THERE WOULD BE A SOVIET
LUNAR MISSION IN 1978 AND WE OVERHEARD NOVIKOV REPLY
AFFIRMATIVELY.)

--NATURAL ENVIRONMENT: ACCORDING TO VERESHCHETIN
THE SOVIETS HAVE SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS IN GEOLOGY AND
OCEANOLOGY, WHICH THEY WANT TO INCLUDE WITHIN THE
FRAMEWORK OF THE NATURAL ENVIRONMENT WORKING
GROUP (04.04) VERESHCHETIN CLAIMED THAT
AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED ALONG THESE LINES DURING
A MEETING BETWEEN ACADEMICIAN SIDORENKO AND U.S.
WORKING GROUP CHAIRMAN JAFFE AT THE TIME OF THE
SHUTTLE-SALYUT TALKS.

--INTERPLANETARY: NOTING THAT HE HAD NOT SEEN THE
NOTES OF THE HINNERS-KIRILLIN MEETING ON NOVEMBER 17
(VERESHCHETIN SAID HE WOULD REQUEST THE NOTES FROM
SCST) BUT THAT PETROV HAD BRIEFED HIM ON THE
MEETING, VERESHCHETIN QUESTIONED SCICOUNS ABOUT THE
MEANING OF THE "PRE-FLIGHT EXCHANGES ON PLANETARY
DATA." SCICOUNS SUMMARIZED THE RESULTS OF THE
HINNERS-KIRILLIN MEETING. NOTING THAT THE TWO
PARTIES HAD AGREED TO MEET IN 1978 TO EXCHANGE
INFORMATION ON PLANETARY RESEARCH PLANS,
SCICOUNS ALLUDED TO SUGGESTION THAT THIS MEETING
TAKE PLACE IN THE U.S. THIS SPRING, BEFORE THE
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VENUS II MISSION. VERESHCHETIN RESPONDED THAT HE
HAD NOT HEARD FROM PETROV ABOUT AN AGREEMENT TO
HOLD A MEETING, AND AT FIRST GLANCE HE THOUGHT
IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT FOR THE SOVIETS TO ORGANIZE
A MEETING THIS SPRING.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THERE IS A RELATIVELY SHORT
LEAD TIME BEFORE THE PROPOSED SPRING MEETING ON
INTERPLANETARY EXCHANGES, AND EVIDENT
CONFUSION ON THE SOVIET SIDE ABOUT THE AGREEMENTS
REACHED DURING THE HINNERS-KIRILLIN MEETING. WE
BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL FOR NASA TO TRANSMIT
TO SOVIETS ASAP A LETTER SETTING FORTH THE U.S.
PROPOSALS ON THE TYPES OF INFORMATION ON INTERPLANETARY
RESEARCH PLANS WHICH THE U.S. WISHES TO EXCHANGE, ALONG
WITH AND TIMING AND VENUE FOR THE MEETING, WHICH NASA
UNDERTOOK TO PROVIDE THE SOVIETS AS A RESULT OF THE
HINNERS-KIRILLIN DISCUSSION. WE WOULD ALSO
APPRECIATE NASA CLARIFICATION RE VERESHCHETIN'S QUESTION
ON EXCHANGE OF LUNAR SAMPLES.
MATLOCK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPACE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 12 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MOSCOW00525
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780018-0760
Format: TEL
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780169/aaaacghh.tel
Line Count: 115
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4338fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION OES
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 3393
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3782978
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EXTENSION OF THE NASA-ACADEMY AGREEMENT
TAGS: TSPA, UR, US
To: STATE NASA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4338fce3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014